

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, independent claim 25 has been canceled. The sole remaining independent claim (27) has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 48 as well as intervening claims 29, 32, 33, 39, 43, 44 and 46 (canceled). In addition, the dependent claims have been reviewed and various adjustments have been made in terms of dependency, clarity and congruence with independent claim 27.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all the claims are patentable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140 under Order No. PTB-4462-13.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: /Paul T. Bowen/
Paul T. Bowen
Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100